

27 JAN 1949

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TOP SECRET

GENERAL

1. Swedes seeking to delay Nordic defense decision--US Ambassador Marvel in Copenhagen expresses the belief that Sweden, with Danish acquiescence, will attempt to delay a decision on Scandinavian defense arrangements until long after 1 February. Marvel believes that such a delay: (a) would give the Swedish Socialists more time in which to attempt to convert Norwegian and Danish Socialists to a neutral policy for Scandinavia; and (b) may result in a Scandinavian agreement unacceptable to the US. Marvel therefore recommends that the US "torpedo" the Oslo conference by bringing pressure on Norway to withdraw from the conference and then seek immediately an invitation to join the North Atlantic Pact.

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2. US views on allocation of arms--The Department of State has instructed US Embassy London to inform the British Foreign Office, in view of the latter's fear that Italy's inclusion in the Atlantic Pact would divert US arms from the Western Union powers, that the US will be guided in allocating US arms by major strategic considerations and that Atlantic Pact membership will be the most important but not the only factor. The Department added that, in fulfilling the established US policy to prevent Italy from falling under Soviet domination, the US will supply Italy with arms whether Italy is or is not a party to the Atlantic Pact. The Department also expressed the hope that Italy, as a natural member of the western European community, will be included from the outset in any Western Union political arrangements recommended by the Brussels Pact powers.

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State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file

FAR EAST

3. CHINA: Suspension of US munitions shipments urged--The Chief of the Joint US Military Advisory Group in China (JUSMAG) has recommended that no further US military

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(CIA Comment: CIA believes that in view of this growing opposition in Norway to an Atlantic Pact and increasing Danish reluctance to support Lange's attempts to draw Sweden into a western alliance, any delays in reaching a decision on Scandinavian defense will tend to weaken Norway's position in the current Scandinavian negotiations.)

FAR EAST

3. **BURMA: Karen-Burman fighting increases**--US Embassy Rangoon reports that the conflict between the Karens and Burmans has resulted in widespread burning of villages throughout the delta area north and west of Rangoon. The Embassy believes the strife is likely to increase and suggests that the US "consider the possibility of international intervention to halt the genocide already going on."

(CIA Comment: CIA believes that this conflict is becoming serious, and that the present Burmese Government is not only incapable of controlling the situation but is perhaps even unwilling to seek a peaceful settlement between Karens and Burmans.)

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